Extracted from XLIII

Medicine - 5 years course - based on matriculation.

The education of the medical student today is thoroughly scientific. The empirical stage is passed - Results of new method seen in decreased death rate & increase in longevity - Modern medicine built on sciences - Pasteur was a chemist

Purpose, to give the student a ~~the~~ mind thoroughly trained in scientific method so that he may not depend on routine methods & traditional treatments but may advance with his rapidly advancing profession - The success of the practitioner therefore depends (a) upon accurate diagnosis (b) upon scientific treatment.

For ~~these~~ diagnosis he must have an accurate knowledge of pathology, physiology anatomy - While these sciences in their turn depend upon physics, chemistry & biology. Again for treatment he must thoroughly understand (bacteriology, pathology. Physiology anatomy) ~~of~~ pharmacology all of which again depend upon chemistry.

On this foundation is built the clinical structure which today always has its scientific laboratory -

But it may be replied that Pharmacists have a short course and Dentists only four years. But Pharmacists do not claim as do the chiropractors, osteopaths or manual therapists ~~of practise~~ conduct operations on the body or on any part of it. While the Dentists treat only the teeth & gums, but they have a four years course including Physics, Chemistry, Anatomy, Physiology Pharmacology & Materia Medica.

It is also claimed by ~~those other~~ who practise these other systems of healing that their methods produce good results & effect cures that are not attained by the practitioners of medicine. In reply I would say (1) that ~~if~~ such of these methods of technical skill or mental suggestion as approve themselves ~~they~~ will be soon adopted in such modified form as the scientific investigation of their character will warrant. The modern medical man is not wedded to old ways. He has been scientifically trained & that means that the medical profession is constantly evolving & will adopt

turn to use any methods or system that may have abiding worth.

(2) Valuable though some of these methods ~~are~~ may be they are ~~not~~ dangerous unless practised by men who have a competent knowledge of the whole body. Public must be protected by preventive medicine from infectious diseases.

We come therefore to this result - these other arts of healing cannot be safely practised by men who have a thorough scientific education on which a knowledge of the structure of the body, physiology, pathology is based, & on the clinical application of these in actual diagnosis of cases in the hospital & the method of treatment based on a knowledge of pathology & bacteriology - Such a course cannot be shorter than the five years demanded by ~~any~~ faculty of medicine of a first class university today. If a man has such a training he will then adapt any other methods he pleases without endangering the health of the patient by the rough & ready application of treatment which may happen to prove successful in some cases, but may be injurious in many others.

The University in taking this ~~attitude~~ position bears in mind that it has a responsibility for the health of the people, & is assured ~~with~~ that this will be protected & improved by a thorough training of a student based on ~~fundamental~~ scientific knowledge of the fundamental sciences, on a thorough knowledge of the structure & functions of the whole body in health & disease, & in the scientific method of ~~adopts~~ diagnosis together with a treatment that accords with our present day knowledge resulting from the advances in the sciences of biology & chemistry.

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The Answer

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Ontario Medical Association held to-day, Wednesday, October 20th. 1915, the following was adopted as a statement of their position in matters now being considered by the Commission on Medical Education regarding osteopaths, chiropractors, christian scientists and other forms of irregular medical practice.

The Ontario Medical Association, representing the medical profession of the Province, holds that every person before being legally entitled to treat the sick should comply with the same educational conditions. Whatever the system of treatment may be, it can be most intelligently carried out by a man who is properly educated. ~~This applies alike to preliminary as well as to~~ scientific or professional education.

To understand disease and treat it intelligently necessitates a knowledge of the structure and functions of the normal healthy body, as well as of the various conditions acting upon it to produce change or derangement of these structures or functions - that is, disease. To be able to understand and treat disease intelligently, therefore, requires a proper training in anatomy and physiology, by which we learn normal structure and function, of pathology, including pathological anatomy and pathological chemistry, by which we learn of the changes in structure and function encountered in disease; of chemistry, physics and bacteriology, in order to understand the conditions acting upon the individual to produce disease and to give the information necessary to apply preventive measures, requisite alike to ward off disease in the individual and to protect the public, as in the case of infectious disease. A study of the signs, symptoms and course of different diseases is necessary in order to be able to recognize them and to diagnose or differentiate one disease from another. Hence, proper clinical training is a prerequisite of any intelligent plan of treatment, as it is obviously impossible to apply treatment properly or with safety until we know what the disease or condition is that we seek to remedy. These principles of necessity apply with equal force to whatever the mode or system of treatment which may be deemed most useful or advisable for the relief of the disease when once it is recognized. It follows, therefore, that the same scientific and clinical training is a prerequisite for all forms of treatment. The arbitrary belief in any special dogma, system or plan of treatment can in no way relieve one of the necessity for this training in the fundamentals for intelligent practice. The irregular systems of practice, in their own curricula do not claim a special form of anatomy, physiology, chemistry, physics or bacteriology. Once the would be practitioner is properly trained and legally qualified, no restriction is or should be placed on his freedom to obtain further knowledge in any form of treatment or of the right to practise it. Only by the acceptance of these underlying principles are equal rights and privileges granted to all, the safety of the public protected and medical science promoted.

In all the countries of Europe these principles are recognized as underlying every form of ~~Practice~~ practice. For the state to recognize the right of any to practise medicine without the knowledge ot be acquired ~~only~~ not only by training in the before meutioned subjects, is to expose ~~only~~ only the individual but the public to grave dangers. The inability to diagnose may allow a patient with a diseased spinal column to be manipulated, producing a dislocation, crushing the spinal cord and producing paralysis and deahh; a tubercul~~ous~~ous joint may be manipulated and the disease disseminated; an aneurism may be ruptured; apoplexy produced in a patient with high blood pressure or death result from manipulation of a goitre. Massage, manipulation, mechanotherapy, hydrotherapy and other non-medical forms of treatment, are recognized and practised as a part of general medicine and require for their safe application the same ability to diagnose and select the proper cases as medicinal treatment.

The public health is endangered from the inability to recognize diphtheria, typhoid, syphilis or other infectious disease, which depend for their diagnosis on clinical training and the ability to apply modern laboratory methods. Examples of such mistakes by those now seeking preferential legislation have frequently occurred in this province. We would suggest the compilation of a list of illustrative cases.

In medico-legal cases, the inability to recognize the disease being treated or the cause of death opens the door to possibilities too serious to require emphasis.

Life and Accident Insurance Companies have interests which depend upon the accurate diagnosis and proper management of disease and injuries.

Modern medicine is opposed to the recognition of any special dogma or exclusive theory of practice, because acceptance of such excludes the necessity for testing out of these theories, and the careful investigation and weighing of facts upon which scientific knowledge and practice depend for their advancement. At the same time, it recognizes and encourages the investigation of every form of treatmet in so far as it is without danger to the individual or the community.

Provision has been made in the Provincial University and in other universities of the Province at a great expense to the public, to furnish proper education and scientific training, which are prerequisite to treatment. The privileges of these institutions are open to all who prepare themselves to take advantage of them. The Government would stultify itself by expending large sums to equip and maintain institutions to provide a proper scientific training if illiterate, inferiorly educated or untrained men are granted the right to practise.

The Ontario Medical Association, whose members have had to comply with the educational requirements of these institutions and to pass the examinations prescribed to qualify them to practise, is opposed to the admission to practise on different terms, of the graduates of inferior proprietary institutions of a foreign country. We believe that all should enter by the same door. The report of the Carnegie Foundation (1910, p.163 -6) says "The eight osteopathic schools fairly reek with commercialism. Their catalogues are a mass of hysterical exaggerations alike of the earning and curative power of osteopathy." It is impossible to say upon which score the "science" most confidently appeals to the crude boys or disappointed men and women whom it successfully exploits. Standards these concerns have none, etc." Now these are the statements made after an exhaustive investigation by commissioners who were not medical men. (We would suggest to insert here Flexner's evidence before the N. Y. Commission).

The members of our Association in order to qualify themselves for specialized practice, have had to spend often many years in post graduate study abroad in order to extend their knowledge. If these wishing to undertake other special forms of practice have to go elsewhere for training or to extend their knowledge after graduation in the regular way, they have a similar right and opportunity to do so; no special legislation is required.

May we also point out the claims which the body of practitioners have for asking consideration of their views by reason of the gratuitous medical services which they have always rendered the indigent, their efforts in furthering preventive medicine and promoting the public health. At the present time hundreds of the doctors of this province, regardless of pecuniary sacrifice, are serving their country and many hundreds of these at home are caring for the needy dependents of our soldiers. We submit that at such a time and in their absence from the country, it would be an act of injustice and ingratitude on the part of the Province to give legal status to any body of inferiorly trained men to practise and thus to jeopardize their interests unnecessarily.

In the questions now at issue before the Commission, the Ontario Medical Association wishes to place itself on record as taking the broadest possible ground in the interests of the community, of the advancement of the science and practice of medicine - preventive as well as curative - as well as of the safety of the sick and ailing. We seek only equal rights for all in upholding those principles which are essential alike for the safety of the public and the promotion of medical knowledge and practice in all its branches.

The Executive Committee would respectfully urge upon the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Ontario legal representatives of the profession in this Province, that they take measures to uphold and maintain the principles herein-before stated.

President.

Secretary.

GENERAL MEDICAL QUESTION

MATRICULATION

It is desirable for the welfare of the general public in the Province that every student desirous of entering upon the study of Medicine (or any system of healing) must have completed the examinations held by the ~~Education Department~~ Matriculation Board of Ontario and called by it "Junior Matriculation in Arts".

This certificate of Matriculation must be registered prior to entry upon any one of the courses above referred to.

The University authorities are of the opinion that in the interests of the people of Ontario a University degree alone should be the portal of entry to the practice of Medicine (or of any other system of healing, and that those who become candidates for any of the other systems of healing besides that which is ordinarly termed "Medicine" should complete the ordinary medical course of five years with the possible exception of the subject of Therapeutics.) Such a degree should be obtained from the Provincial University or some recognized University in the British Dominions.

(In discussing the question of the other systems of healing it may be urged that they are entitled to be considered upon the same plane as the dentists or pharmacists and in reply it should be urged that a chiropractor or an osteopath or a manual therapist, conducts his operations upon the whole body and not upon an isolated portion thereof, as does the dentist,- and that these processes pursued by these other systems involve considerations which require for their full elucidation a thorough knowledge of Anatomy, Bacteriology, Physiology, Chemistry and Pathology, as applied to the human body. It is to be noted in this connection that the course in Dentistry, which professes to equip the student to deal with diseases of the teeth and gums only, is spread over a course of four years and embraces a study of Anatomy, Physiology, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Pharmacology and Materia Medica.

Cases may be cited from the experience of the General Hospitals in Toronto where patients have suffered seriously at the hands of ignorant members of the pathic class.)

THE RELATIONS OF THE MEDICAL COUNCIL OF THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS OF ONTARIO.

The University is of the opinion that the Medical Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of the Province of Ontario should be reorganized upon the lines of the British Medical Council, with the same powers.

It is to be noted in this connection that the chief reason for the above position is that the question of medical education should be in the hands of educationists, rather than of men having no relation to teaching or any experience in it.

The Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons itself, four years ago, determined that it should be reorganized on a basis of fourteen members, but this reorganization has been postponed on the ground that this Commission, when appointed, would deal with the matter.

It is the opinion of the University that examinations in Medicine should be conducted by the University only, but that the Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario should be represented at these examinations by representatives, which may be termed, as in the British Medical Act, "inspectors".

We believe that in the interests of the public, inspectors should be appointed by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, whose duties should be to report to that body upon the equipment, staff, methods and quality of instruction afforded by the various institutions engaged in the teaching of Medicine ~~(or of any other system of healing)~~.

ONTARIO MEDICAL COUNCIL.	BRITISH MEDICAL COUNCIL.
How Constituted:-	
1 Representative from 18 Territories, elected by the Medical Practitioners of Ontario.	1 Representative from 24 Teaching (University) formerly Licensing Bodies.
1 Representative from six Universities.	3 Representatives elected by the Medical Practitioners registered in England.
5 Representatives elected by the Homoepathic Practitioners.	1 Representative elected by the Medical Practitioners registered in Scotland.
First Ontario Medical Act ~~1874~~ 1869	1 Representative elected by the Medical Practitioners registered in Ireland.
Amended 1887.	British Medical Act 1886 and Amendments.
RESULT:-	
23 Representatives of Practitioners.	5 Representatives from England, Ireland and Scotland Medical Practitioners.
6 Collegiate Representatives.	24 Representatives of Universities.
Requirements for Registration.	
Matriculation.	Matriculation. Standard fixed by General Medical Council.
Five Years of Study. (Four winter Sessions of eight months each and a clinical year spent either in a Hospital or with a Practitioner)	Must register with General Council within 15 days of commencing study and spend five Sessions of eight months each at an Institution where the standard is assuredly maintained under the inspection of the General Medical Council.
Act provides power and authority to fix and determine curriculum of studies. Statement is made in their Annual announcement of the courses to be followed.	The General Medical Council fixes the standard of proficiency and it is their duty to secure the maintenance of such standards in all teaching Institutions mentioned. For that purpose inspectors are appointed in such number as the Council determines and these shall attend as the General Council may direct, at all or any of the qualifying examinations held by the bodies aforesaid, viz:- the 24 Universities electing members to the General Council.

ONTARIO MEDICAL COUNCIL.	BRITISH MEDICAL COUNCIL.
Conducts examinations at the end of a student's Course in Medicine, Surgery and Midwifery.	Appoints inspectors to attend the Examinations conducted by the Universities. The inspector takes no part in the examination, but if in his opinion the examinations conducted are not up to the standard, he reports this to the General Council and the Medical Council may then report the matter to the Privy Council, which shall authorize the Council to refuse to recognize such examinations as qualifying examinations. The University in question must bring its standard up to the requirements and it is then restored to its status.

Professor A. B. Macallum dictated the following note:-

The late Dr. Henry Hoover Wright was the principal leader in the campaign throughout the Province in the early seventies which led to the founding of the Ontario Medical Council and he again and again stated to me personally that the Medical Council would never have been founded had it not been agreed to concede to the Universities and Schools engaged in giving instruction and diplomas in Medicine or degrees in Medicine in this Province, representation in the Medical Council that was to be created, these Universities and Schools on their part engaging to surrender their powers of Licensing in order that the Council should come into existence.

This was a contract which was crystallized in the Act of 1874, but that contract has been largely forgotten or ignored by the territorial representatives in the Council of the last thirty years.

The British Medical Council came into existence in practically the same way, the teaching and licensing bodies which have representatives in it, however, have not surrendered their power to license their graduates in Medicine and have only submitted to having such examinations subject to inspection by the British Medical Council which controls the curriculum leading to the qualification of such a license.

The British Medical Council after receiving a report from one of its inspectors appointed to attend the examinations of any licensing body, showing that the standard of proficiency in any of such examinations was not high enough, may report to the Privy Council, which shall authorize the Council to refuse to recognize such examinations as qualifying examinations for the purpose of registration.